WINNIPEG
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Wednesday, April 20, 2011
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News worth sharing.

▶ Tim Sinclair-Smith, left, director of Assiniboine Park Zoo, and Hartley Richardson, chairman of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy, admire one of the stars of the new Toucan Ridge exhibit

JAMES TURNER/METRO

Grand toucan slam

- $3.1-million overhaul of what used to be zoo's tropical house officially opens today
- The city 'bills' display as vibrant exploration of animal, bird and plant life of the new world tropics of Central and South America

Flood 2011

Melita redoubles dike building as water rises

Coming crest threatens to overtake that of record 1976 disaster {page 2}

Election

Parties answer Metro readers' questions

You gave them a piece of your collective mind They responded {pages 10-11}

Scene

Prolific U.K. popster prepares to cross pond

Jessie J on Miley, B.o.B and how it feels to have written 600 songs {page 8}

1 news

Melita prepares for the worst

Provincial workers in Melita, Man., are diking frantically as the town prepares for its worst flood on record.

Steve Topping, executive director for Manitoba Water Stewardship, said large flood barrier tubes were set up on top of the town's clay dike yesterday as "additional freeboard" to protect against the Souris River.

The crest, which will likely happen within the next few days, is expected to be protracted.

Floodwaters are reaching 1976 levels, the town's worst flood on record, and are expected to overtake those levels.

Repairs continue to dikes along the Assiniboine River closer to Winnipeg, especially between Poplar Point and the Baie St. Paul bridge.

Repairs will likely be done within the next two days, said Topping.

The Red River, meanwhile, is expected to crest at Emerson between April 25 and April 28.

There is still no predicted date for the Assiniboine River, except that it will likely happen sometime in late April or early May.

ELISHA DACEY

For more news: metronews.ca/winnipeg

Women's lodge facing city hurdle

City administrators recommend approval for zoning permits

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

A long-awaited transitional housing facility in Winnipeg meant to help women get their lives back on track after stints behind bars may take a major step forward today.

City council's executive policy committee will consider and vote on whether the Native Women's Transition Centre (NWTC) will get zoning permits for a 15-unit transitional housing complex in the West End.

The Centre needs the city to rezone a small parcel of land at 478 Agnes St. from residential to commercial occupancy.

The land is directly behind 667 Ellice Ave. — a building being transformed into what will become the NWTC's Kihiw Iskewock Lodge.

"I'm hoping it will be very positive. It's going to be the first of its kind in Manitoba."
LUCILLE BRUCE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIVE WOMEN'S TRANSITION CENTRE

The housing facility is an expansion of the agency's services after years of being based solely in the North End. If so, the lodge will be well on track for its expected late-July opening, said Leslie Bruce, NWTC's executive director.

"It's going to lead to successful outcomes for many of those women who have been ignored," Bruce said yesterday.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ The Kihiw Iskewock Lodge at 667 Ellice St. has been in the works for the last four years.

It may surprise you that Japan must reach out to U.S. for robot help in its nuclear disaster. Scan the code for the story.

1 Download the free ScanLife app with your smartphone at 2dscan.com

2 Use your smartphone to scan 2D barcodes in Metro

3 The codes will direct your mobile browser to **m.metronews.ca**

On the web at metronews.ca

Go hands-on with RIM's PlayBook and see how it stacks up against Apple's iPad 2. Video at metronews.ca

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Police: No DUI task force in works, but enforcement up

If Winnipeg police ever assembled a task force to crack down on drunks and druggies driving on city streets, they wouldn't have to look far for a person willing to lead it.

"Absolutely I'd be interested in doing that," said Sgt. Rob Riffel, the current impaired-driving countermeasures co-ordinator for the police service.

"If it was something that was proposed, absolutely I'd be interested."

As it stands today, Riffel's role on the force means he's the closest thing to a drunk-driving czar the WPS has.

And while there's no immediate plan in the works to put an impaired-driving enforcement unit on the road 24-7, Riffel came forward yesterday and said measures aimed at deterring motorists from impaired driving will be more active this year.

Twenty spring and summer days have been scheduled for the MPI-funded RoadWatch initiative to be out on city streets, Riffel said. The program pays overtime for officers wanting to work extra shifts for DUI enforcement.

Last weekend, WPS RoadWatch officers stopped 349 vehicles citywide, resulting in a handful of licence suspensions.

RoadWatch will operate over the Easter weekend, Riffel said. JAMES TURNER

Prank calls made by Liberal imposters

Candidate says he doesn't believe the Greens or NDP are behind calls

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

A former MP battling to regain his seat in a hotly contested Winnipeg riding says unknown imposters are calling voters on behalf of the Liberal party and being rude to people in order to turn them off voting Liberal in the upcoming federal election.

Liberal candidate Ray Simard said yesterday he was out door-knocking in the St. Boniface riding Monday afternoon and was told by potential voters they had been contacted by someone representing the Liberals and were treated poorly.

Simard said similar calls have been happening to Liberal candidates in at least eight other Canadian ridings — in one case, the calls were coming from somewhere in North Dakota, Simard said.

He suggested the calls may be orchestrated by the Conservatives, but admitted he had no proof.

"It's part of the way these guys do business," he told Metro.

In the 2008 federal election, Simard lost his seat to incumbent Conservative MP Shelly Glover.

Glover spokeswoman Myrrhanda Novak called Simard's comments "unfortunate," and denied Glover's camp had any involvement.

"This is just part of what happens during a campaign," Novak said, adding some Conservatives have also been the target of "clearly unprofessional" calls to voters.

"We're not going to go blaming our opponents for it," she said.

Hello?

- A Liberal campaign worker in Brampton, Ont., has been charged with pilfering Conservative signs.
- Candidates in Manitoba and Ontario complain voters have been receiving harassing late-night phone calls from imposters.
- A Liberal candidate in Ontario lost $2,000 worth of signs after bull's-eyes were painted over his head.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ Liberal candidate Raymond Simard

News in pictures

PHOTOS
1. GOOGLEMAPS
2. CONTRIBUTED
3. JAMES TURNER/METRO
4. WINNIPEG POLICE SERVICE

1 Office Depot intends to shut down Winnipeg's two remaining stores, one on Ness Avenue and one on Pembina Highway, on June 11.

2 Days after Winnipeg woman Jessica Bondar died waiting for a heart transplant, the province announced it will create an electronic organ donation registry.

3 Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz called a press conference yesterday to again complain about the province's infrastructure funding formula for municipalities.

4 Winnipeg police say convicted sex offender Fabian Claybren Maytwayashing has been released from prison and is at high risk to reoffend.

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Grits pitch water vision

Michael Ignatieff says freshwater plan would clean up Lake Winnipeg
Flooding woes a national problem

Election 2011

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is in flood-racked Manitoba to talk up his proposed $225-million freshwater strategy.

The two-year plan, contained in the Liberal platform, would explore the best scientific solutions to Canada's various water woes, including the flooding challenges that Manitoba faces each year.

Hundreds of people in Manitoba and Saskatchewan have been forced from their homes as the region confronts water levels higher than they've been in more than 100 years.

Ignatieff says Canada's flooding woes, which also affect parts of Quebec, New Brunswick and B.C., are a national problem that demand a national solution.

He says aboriginal communities in particular struggle to deal with floods, which worsen existing problems such as a shortage of housing and clean drinking water.

Ignatieff's plan would also explore options for cleaning up heavily polluted Lake Winnipeg and removing invasive species from the Great Lakes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ NDP Leader Jack Layton fulfills one of his childhood dreams as he gives the weather report during a visit to the morning television show Canada AM, yesterday.

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U.K. to aid Libyan rebels with intel, not weapons

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe says he is 'totally hostile' to deploying ground troops

Britain said yestserday it would send about a dozen senior soldiers to Libya to help organize the country's haphazard rebel forces, as international allies seek to aid the opposition's attempts to break the military stalemate.

Foreign Secretary William Hague said the U.K. military advisers would join British diplomats already co-operating with rebel leaders in the eastern rebel-held city of Benghazi, but insisted they would not help arm the opposition or assist in military operations against strongman Moammar Gadhafi's forces.

About a dozen U.K. military personnel, including officers with logistical and intelligence expertise, will work with the National Transitional Council, the political wing of the rebel movement — which has been officially recognized by Italy, France and Qatar.

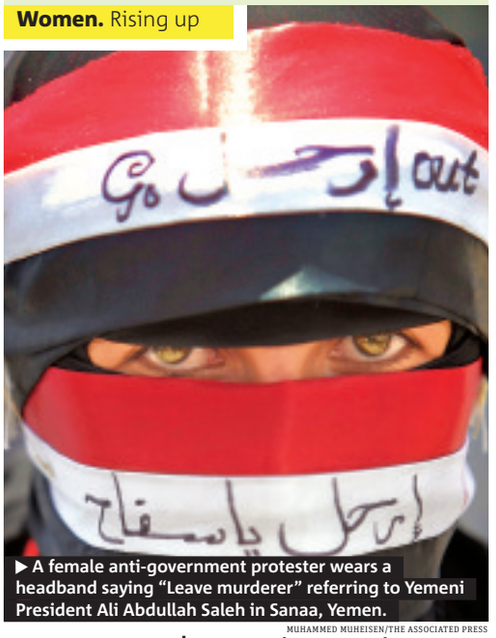
Britain has said it would not become involved in directly supplying weapons to Libya's rebels, but has sent non-lethal assistance such as 1,000 sets of body armour and 100 satellite phones.

In Rome, Italy's foreign minister Franco Frattini said allies would also consider supplying rebels with technical equipment like radars or telecom blocking systems.

Italy, however, remains opposed to sending ground troops, Frattini said, following talks with the leader of the Libyan rebels' transitional government, Mustafa Abdul-Jalil.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women. Rising up



▶ A female anti-government protester wears a headband saying "Leave murderer" referring to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa, Yemen.

MUHAMMED MUHEISEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yemen deteriorating

Yemeni security forces opened fire on anti-government protesters yesterday, killing at least three amid rising international concern over the strategically located nation. Human Rights groups say 120 have died during the protests.

Emergency rule ditched

Syria did away with 50 years of emergency rule yesterday, but emboldened and defiant crowds accused President Bashar Assad of simply trying to buy time while he clings to power in one of the most repressive regimes in the Middle East.

Repealing the state of emergency, which gives authorities almost boundless powers of surveillance and arrest, was once the key demand of the month-long uprising. But the protest movement has crossed a significant threshold, with increasing numbers now seeking nothing less than the downfall of the regime.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

23

Most of Syria's 23 million people were born or grew up under the strict control of the state of emergency.

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Inflation spike, interest hike?

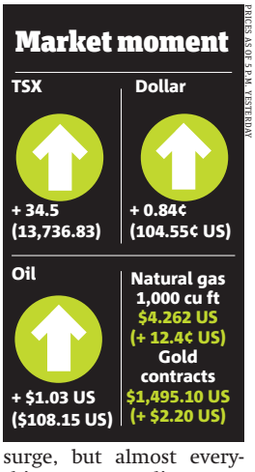
Almost everything cost more last month If it's a trend, not a fluke, look for interest rates to follow suit

Canada's annual inflation rate, which had been bucking global trends, leaped to 3.3 per cent, with both the yearly reading and last month's measure rising by 1.1 points.

It was the biggest single-month jump in inflation since the eve of the 2008 recession, and was well above the consensus call for a 0.6 per cent gain.

The Bank of Canada's mandate is to keep inflation within a range of one to three per cent and as close as possible to two per cent. Last month's spike sharply increases prospects that consumers will soon see higher interest rates .

The price of commodities, especially oil, was a big part of the inflation surge, but almost everything was costlier compared to February and last year.



Statistics Canada said all eight of the components it tracks were up, including food, which was 3.3 per cent higher than last year.

The only good news is that core inflation, which excludes volatile items such as gasoline, remained anchored at 1.7 per cent.

Last week, when the central bank decided to keep its trendsetting interest rate moored at one per cent, it predicted inflation would hit three per cent this spring, then start tailing off.

It gets one more look at inflation before it has to decide on the rate on May 31, and a lot will depend on whether prices, particularly the core that points to future inflation, breaches the two per cent target. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Tech watchers had predicted lineups for the PlayBook would be short, as they were yesterday in Toronto, partly because pre-orders could be booked online.

All quiet on the PlayBook front

There were no jostling crowds of tech-hungry geeks lining up for the launch today of the PlayBook tablet by BlackBerry maker Research In Motion — a stark contrast with the launch of rival Apple's iPad 2 last month.

But experts caution that comparing the two devices is like comparing apples to blackberries — the iPad is beloved by consumers, while the PlayBook is aimed at businesses.

The lack of hoopla surrounding the PlayBook debut seemed irrelevant to Ian Chan, who was first in line at 6 a.m. outside a Best Buy store in Toronto for the 7 a.m. launch.

Chan said he thought the PlayBook was worth lining up for because it is smaller than the iPad, which makes it easier to travel with.

At the flagship Sears Canada store in downtown Toronto, James Tetreault, divisional merchandise manager of electronics, said the store presold more than 150 units, which he considered successful for a new technology product. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's rich did it on their own: Survey

Many of Canada's richest people weren't born that way, as some suppose; they earned it, says a Harris Decima survey commissioned by BMO Harris Private Banking.

The survey shows that 94 per cent of Canadians with more than $1 million available to invest are self-made. Only six per cent said they owe most of their wealth to inheritance.

Andrew Auerbach, vice-president of BMO Harris Private Banking in Toronto, said if the survey were to look at what he called "ultra-high net worth families," those with more than $10 million in investable assets, the slant toward the self-made would be greater.

The main point to be taken from the survey is that Canadians should feel good about living in a country where upward mobility is possible.

"These findings speak to the strong entrepreneurial environment in which we live," he said.

"They reveal a culture of drive and determination among Canadians and recognize that we live in a country where self-made success is encouraged and rewarded."

Keith Sjogren of Investor Economics, a research and consulting firm, says Canadians become millionaires in a variety of ways, and not all involve starting or selling a business. They include investments, cashing in stock options from work, sales of real estate or working in a high-paying profession for many years.

The BMO findings are in line with his own firm's research, he said, though he believes the proportion of inherited wealth is higher, in the 10 per cent to 15 per cent range.

"I do agree that the bulk of high net worth households do create their wealth on their own, it is not inherited," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rags to riches

- **There are about 550,000** Canadian households with more than $1 million in investable assets, representing 60 per cent of the country's private wealth.
- **About 80 per cent are** wealthier than their parents were, and 77 per cent say they are better off today than they were before the 2008 recession, which suggests they have recovered any stock-market losses.
- **However, asked if they** thought their children were well prepared to manage their inheritance, only 58 per cent said yes.
- **Some 70 per cent said** they believe it is important to give back to their community, with 59 per cent saying the recession had no impact on their charitable donations.

TSX merger rethink urged

The Toronto and London stock exchanges need to rewrite their proposed multibillion-dollar merger to better protect Canada's interests, an Ontario legislative committee said yesterday. The Liberals and Conservatives on the committee, which did not have the power to approve or reject the deal, said it's not a merger of equals if Toronto gets only seven seats on the 15-member board of the combined exchanges. It made nine recommendations, including a demand for a written agreement that Canada's equal representation on the merged board would not be changed in future years. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Law firm turfs taco bell suit

Taco Bell declared victory yesterday after a class-action lawsuit that raised a beef with the meat in its tacos and burritos was dropped. The false-advertising suit, filed in January by law firm Beasley Allen of Montgomery, Ala., alleged the chain's filling didn't have enough beef to be called that. The firm says it dropped the suit after Taco Bell made changes to its marketing and product disclosure. But Taco Bell denies the claim and said it made no such changes. The chain said the allegations were "absolutely wrong" and the suit was voluntarily withdrawn by the firm "once they learned the truth." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From McJob to corner office

McDonald's Corp., seeking to change the "McJobs" stereotype that working in fast food is a dead end, launched a well-publicized push yesterday to hire 50,000 workers.

However, McDonald's usually staffs up for summer anyway. A spokeswoman says that last year McDonald's hired 50,000 employees throughout April.

The company, based in Oak Brook, Ill., says that, far from being unstimulating and offering few prospects, its jobs teach important skills and many of its executives started as crew members. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

HAIR-BRAINED CAMPAIGN

It's not hard to make me crazy. All you have to do is promote one of the following Big Lies:

The Holocaust never happened. It's just a way for Israel to justify its existence ... 9-11 was an inside job ... The world is only 6,000 years old and dinosaurs walked claw in hand with Fred Flintstone ... The moon landing never happened. It was filmed on a Hollywood back lot ... Global warming is a hoax perpetrated by scientists who don't want to lose their grants ... Barack Obama wasn't really born in the U.S. He's not an American citizen, so he's not eligible to be president.

To the people reading this column who believe any or all of the above, I have a bridge you might want to buy. It spans some unbelievably cheap land in Florida that is also for sale.

To Donald Trump, who is playing the "Obama is not an American" card to launch his U.S. presidential bid, I say shame on you. I didn't think you could sink much lower than Celebrity Apprentice, but apparently you're just getting warmed up.

So what if every credible news organization has verified that Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on Aug. 4, 1961. The "birther" conspiracy theorists, a group entirely composed of rednecks from south of the Mason-Dixon Line (and opportunistic Republicans like the Donald) refuse to believe it.

They believe Obama was born in Kenya. Or held dual citizenship — British/Indonesian/Kenyan — whatever.

This even though Obama has produced a birth certificate from a Honolulu hospital, legal in every aspect, documenting his birth. Pshaw, say the birthers. If he was really born in Hawaii, he would be able to produce the long form — by implication, the real thing that can't be forged. But there was no long form in Hawaii. Obama's certificate is the only form, and it goes with a long string of other evidence: For example, birth notices in the local papers from the Hawaii Department of Health.

None of this cuts the mustard with the Donald, who has decided Obama needs to be fired.

And while mainstream Republicans are slowly backing away from Trump and his ridiculous allegations, the latest poll has him No. 2 among Republican hopefuls, below Mitt Romney, but above Mike Huckabee and Sarah Palin.

And he's on a roll, endorsed by Celebrity Apprentice contestant Gary Busey, who obviously doesn't care the boss is pandering to a blatant lie perpetrated by a bunch of racists who will do anything to get that black guy out of the Oval Office.

Ignorance is alive and well and living on cable.

And it has a really bad comb-over.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

metro life panel

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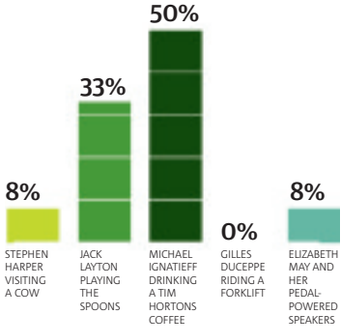
Who has made use of the best campaign prop in the election so far?



Local tweets

- **@Ryne Hoover:** Anyone still think Phoenix isn't going to move to Winnipeg? I'm almost ready to give 3-1 odds to anyone that crazy!
- **@Wpgpisstank:** I was rushed to the ER today. Didn't have enough liquor in my blood.
- **@KatiesNest:** I am no longer saving for a big dirty truck, I'm saving to move out of Winnipeg
- **@timder:** Hey NHL, you got your 10-year TV deal with NBC. You bring the Jets back home now.
- **@adam_p_taylor:** The conservatives apparently have the best looking supporters and candidates ... Have they seen their own leader?? #MrPotatoHead-Hair
- **@timclofton:** We need to crusade for hockey to return to Winnipeg, Quebec City, and Hartford — so NHL '94 can be current once again.
- **@FriesenYearbook:** Miles Macdonell Collegiate's (Winnipeg) Literary Arts Book Launch is on Thurs April 21, 8pm at McNally Robinson Booksellers. Check it out!

Worth mentioning

VIENNA, Austria. Austrian Wildlife authorities are hopping mad that efforts to save the local frog population are being hampered by Italian poachers.

Officials in the Austrian province of Carinthia said yesterday poachers are collecting frogs from the roadside buckets they have been guided into to save them from busy highways, and are then smuggling them home to Italian dinner tables.

Frogs' legs are a delicacy in some parts of Italy. Officials told Austrian state television yesterday that the victims tend to be those with the meatiest thighs.

Frogs attempting to cross some Austrian highways are channelled by a series of fences into roadside buckets. Once a day, volunteers collect the buckets and carry the amphibians to the other side of the road and set them free. But "the Italians strike before the frog pickers come," said Carinthian environmental official Bernhard Gutleb.

Nearly one-third of the world's 6,485 frog species are on the brink of extinction, according to Save The Frogs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael De Adder

WEIRD NEWS

Their families must be so proud of them

The U.S. sheriff known for dressing inmates in pink underwear and feeding them green baloney is inviting people to choose the most popular jail booking photos posted on his website.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio allows online users to browse through the photos and then vote on their favourites that will be highlighted on a "Mugshot of the Day" section.

▶ Infamous mug: Nick Nolte in 2002.

The top picks so far aren't unexpected: They are the most dishevelled, unusual looking people among those booked into an Arizona jail.

Arpaio says he hopes the increased web traffic will highlight the work of his employees.

He also says more crimes may be uncovered if the public can view the photos.

The website is www.mcso.org.

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2 scene

Translating success

Jessie J recorded 600 songs for debut CD Talks about school with Adele, writing songs for Miley Cyrus

Jessie J spent the last seven years crafting songs for her debut CD. And in that time she came up with a whopping 600 tracks.

"(It) isn't that many 'cause it's less than 100 a year," she said. "(There are) the bad ones that no one will ever hear ... (but) I was young and the thing is, you have to write the bad ones to kind of know when something is good."

Luckily, the 23-year-old found 13 songs good enough to make it on her first album.

Price Tag, which features rapper B.o.B, hit the Top 40 on the Billboard chart last week.

B.o.B is the only artist on your debut. Why him?

If I was a male rapper — which obviously I'm not — (but) if I was, I think I'd be like him, and maybe (be) called like J.o.B. ... I remember he got played the song, he loved it and I did like five plane journeys in like four days and chased him around the U.S. to make sure I was there (for the recording), so it was an experience.

So you went to high school with Adele — how was that?

She was in music and I was in musical theatre. ... We used to jam at lunch time and someone would play guitar and we both would just sing. ... At the time we both didn't know we'd have, like, albums out at the same time. And she's killing it. I'm so proud of her. ... (At school) she was very kind of loud and everyone knew her and she was the girl everyone loved and up for a laugh and you could hear her laugh from a mile down the corridor.

Talk about writing Miley Cyrus' Party In the USA.

That was my first week of writing after I signed to (Universal) Republic (Records), so it was like the first big kind of writing session for my debut album ... and it was one of the first songs we did. And I remember thinking this song is amazing, but I don't know if it's me 110 per cent, you know. You can kind of feel it. It was cool but it wasn't edgy enough.

It was a big deal for Miley though.

There are so many friends of mine that would say, 'I would never, ever, ever listen to Miley Cyrus, like, as Hannah Montana' and it kind of brought her over to another style.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"You have to write the bad ones to ... know when something is good."
JESSIE J

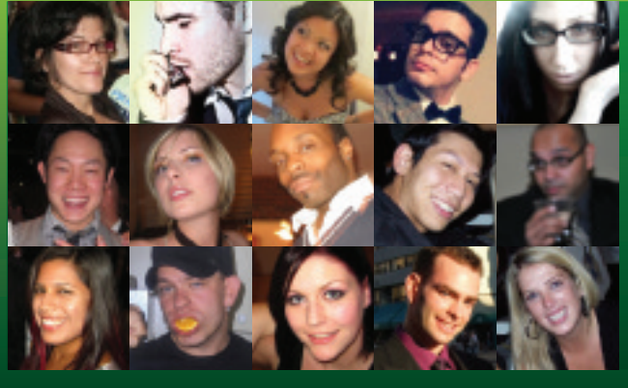
JEFF CHRISTENSEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Recording artist Jessie J, who won Critics' Choice at this year's Brit Awards, is hoping to find similar success in North America.

Making music

Jeff Bridges is working on a new album that will be his major-label debut. The Oscar-winning actor has signed with EMI's Blue Note Records and is working with his Crazy Heart collaborator T Bone Burnett on an album that will include original material and the work of other songwriters.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MTV plans inaugural O Music Awards in Las Vegas to honour digital music and fans



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#ELXN41 LEADERS ON CITY ISSUES THAT MATTER

Lohan still has job offers

Producer calls troubled star a 'great, great actress'

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

While the results of her upcoming felony grand theft trial are uncertain, Lindsay Lohan at least can take solace in the fact that she can still get work. Film producer Mark Fiore tells Radar Online that he's interested in the troubled actress for not two upcoming projects.

"I want Lindsay to be in Gotti and another movie that I'm producing," says Fiore, who serves as executive producer for Gotti: Three Generations. "She's been very professional. People make mistakes. Look at other people in Hollywood." METRO

CALLING ALL MONSTERS!
Metro and Lady Gaga have teamed up for a Special Edition Metro Life Panel survey and she wants answers from YOU!
Survey will be emailed to panelists the week of April 25.
Results will be published on May 17 in the Lady Gaga Edition of Metro!
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metro life panel

Opinion

COLIN FAST

NHL, FLOOD OVERSHADOW FEDERAL CAMPAIGN IN WINNIPEG

Memo to Iggy: You might want to stop complaining that Stephen Harper is obsessed with jets, as lots of folks around Winnipeg share that obsession these days.

Of course I'm talking about the potential return of the NHL Jets, rather than the $6-billion military purchase, but given how little attention the federal campaign has generated here so far, the potential for confusion exists.

And if rumours about an NHL announcement in Winnipeg within the next few weeks turn out to be true, expect a parade of fans at Portage and Main ... followed closely by a parade of jersey-clad candidates trying to squeeze their way into the spotlight.

Meanwhile, one of the biggest floods in Manitoba history threatens to wash away any hope this campaign has of gaining traction with the public. While Winnipeg has been spared so far, nearly 600 roads and bridges are washed out throughout the province, and the crests of the Red and Assiniboine rivers are still on the way.

Once the floodwaters go away and the repair bills come in, infrastructure spending will become a major concern, and both the province and city have already put the federal government on notice that they'll be looking for support. (Of course, many would argue that Winnipeg's non-flooded, pothole-plagued roads aren't in much better condition and could also use federal help.)

Beyond these immediate concerns, the big issue among Winnipeg voters right now is crime, which is no surprise since the city continues to record some of the highest levels of violent offences in the country.

"Crime is consistently the number 1 preoccupation of Manitobans, especially Winnipeggers," explained Curtis Brown, associate with local pollster Probe Research. "This potentially benefits the Conservatives, who are often seen as being stronger on this issue, and who have probably talked the most of the four (main) parties about crime."

As for specific riding battles, political observers are keeping a close eye on a few key seats — Saint Boniface, Winnipeg North, Winnipeg South and Winnipeg South Centre most notably — but no big swings are anticipated at this point in the race.

While the parties might be failing to capture the imagination of local residents, the potential hat trick of having the NHL announce the Jets' return, the floodwaters reaching their crest and the election occurring all at the same time could still make for a memorable May 2 in Manitoba's capital.

YOU ASKED,

Metro readers submitted questions for the five parties Here's what they had to say ...

Tomorrow at 1 p.m., join us for a live chat as our crack urban affairs team responds to the parties' answers — what's working, what isn't and what's missing from the federal agenda. Speak up at metronews.ca and on Twitter using #elxn41urban."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Stephen Harper

CONSERVATIVES

1 **Many immigrants to Canada are encouraged and allowed to move here based on their professional experience or credentials, only to discover once they arrive that their credentials are not recognized. What role should the federal government play in addressing this problem?**

In 2009, we invested $50 million over two years ... to streamline the recognition process in a number of important occupations and made it easier for foreign-trained Canadians to use their skills and expertise in Canada. But some foreign-trained workers still have difficulty paying for ... the foreign credential recognition process. A re-elected Stephen Harper Government will provide bridge loans to help recent immigrants pay for the training and skills upgrading needed for their foreign credentials to be recognized.

2 **Other G8 countries have national transit strategies, but in Canada federal investments in public transit tend to be ad hoc, which many big-city mayors have argued leads to worse planning and less efficient spending. Does Canada need a national transit strategy, and if so, what should it look like?**

In the past two years alone, we have worked with municipal and provincial partners to undertake more than 28,500 projects, many transit-related from coast-to-coast. A re-elected Stephen Harper Government will continue to support Canadian communities according to their unique needs. We introduced the transit tax credit to encourage Canadians to take public transit, reducing traffic in major city centres.

3 **According to Statistics Canada, the crime rate has been declining since the early 1990s, yet concern about crime in urban areas seems to be on the rise. How do you reconcile this discrepancy?**

We have passed a number of pieces of legislation to protect the vulnerable and to hold criminals accountable. We have also invested in youth gang prevention and other initiatives to encourage Canadians to stay clear of criminal activities. A re-elected Conservative government will build on our strong record by enacting legislation to end the sentence discount for child pornography and child sex offenders and toughening penalties for elder abuse.

4 **According to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, only $8 of every $100 Canadians spend on taxes goes to cities, yet cities are struggling to pay for infrastructure, policing, housing and many of the government services city residents actually interact with most on a day-to-day basis. What changes are required to ensure cities are sufficiently funded?**

In 2008, Stephen Harper's Conservative government permanently doubled the gas tax fund. This major step forward for municipalities is providing a stable and predictable source of revenue for the renewal of local infrastructure. A re-elected Conservative Government will introduce legislation to confirm this permanent funding for municipal infrastructure through the gas tax fund.

5 **A century ago only 20 per cent of Canadians lived in urban areas. That number has now increased to 80 per cent (or more than 25 million Canadians). What is your party's vision for the role of cities within the Canadian federation, now and into the future?**

Cities are vitally important to Canada's economic success. Our government understands that. A re-elected Stephen Harper Conservative government will continue to work effectively with all levels of government to deliver historic investments in local infrastructure, including better highways, roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems, housing college and university facilities, public transit, and green energy.

THEY ANSWERED

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Michael Ignatieff

LIBERALS

The federal government must do a better job screening and advising prospective immigrants on credential recognition before they leave their countries of origin. Improving credential recognition and the integration of new Canadians into the workforce requires a renewed effort between governments, professional groups, educational institutions, sector councils and unions. We will provide leadership and make this a priority.

A Liberal government will work with other levels of government and the private sector to put in place a Canadian transportation and infrastructure strategy. Liberal infrastructure priorities will include local and regional transit, rapid transit, and commuter rail that helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as high-speed rail in regions where rapid, convenient connections between major urban centres promise environmental benefits, enhanced mobility, and decreased congestion.

Crime is always a serious problem. We need evidence-based crime policies that are tough on crime where we need tougher sentences, but also strong on crime prevention. What we don't need is to import failed crime policies from the United States. If we want to be tough on crime, we must be tough on guns. The gun registry is supported by Canada's police force as well as countless organizations in women's health and safety because it improves public safety.

We will maintain the successful gas tax transfer to municipalities and provide additional funds. A lack of affordable housing in large cities is a growing barrier to young families of modest incomes looking for their first home. We will increase the federal investment in affordable housing by $550 million, and work with cities to put in place a renewed affordable housing framework to reduce homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing.

We view the cities as equal partners. The previous Liberal government made the most important contribution to municipal public finance in a generation through its 2005 New Deal for Cities and Communities. A new Liberal government will build on that progress. We will be a strong federal partner, working with our cities on the next generation of transit infrastructure and affordable housing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jack Layton

NDP

A New Democrat government would take a leadership role to move toward a fair, efficient, transparent and accountable immigration system. In conjunction with provinces and licensing authorities, we will accelerate and streamline the recognition of foreign credentials, overseas degrees, and previous employment experience. To assist with community integration and English and French language programs, we will reinstate federal funding for the settlement programs for new Canadians.

Yes. Because Canada is the only OECD country that does not have a national public transit strategy. New Democrats tabled the National Public Transit Strategy Act, which outlines a practical plan for providing sustainable, predictable, public transit investments. New Democrats have also promised to allocate an additional cent of the existing gas tax to public transit funding for municipalities and to encourage transit use by providing a tax exemption for employee workplace-based transit passes.

To improve public safety on the streets of our communities ... New Democrats will provide stable, permanent funding to put at least 2,500 new police officers on the streets and increase federal support for crime prevention initiatives from $65 million to $100 million per year. We will give parents, teachers and police more tools to protect our children by making gang recruitment illegal and create new, standalone offences for home invasions and car-jackings.

In addition to increased funding for public transit, New Democrats will continue current federal infrastructure funding commitments and invest in community-controlled renewable energy development. In addition to restoring the affordable housing programs the Harper government allowed to expire, we will fund 100,000 new child-care spaces and provide around $1 billion a year for new affordable housing.

Canada's cities must be regarded as important resources in Canada's future economy. Jack Layton is determined to increase investment in cities, including an extra cent of the gas tax – $500 million a year – for public transit. He understands the important role these communities play in our country's overall economy and is committed to seeing there is a place at the negotiating table for cities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Elizabeth May

GREENS

The Green party finds fault with the current accreditation system. We would eliminate the valuation of foreign credentials for immigration purposes except in those cases where such credentials are recognized in Canada, or a clear, expeditious path to accreditation is established, and in place establish realistic criteria for immigrants based on existing job opportunities. We would also press professional societies to remove unnecessary barriers hindering the recognition of valid professional credentials.

The Green party of Canada's position is that we must adopt a national transit strategy that strengthens our rail network and public transit systems in order to have a competitive, modern economy. We are committed to providing cities with the resources to create public transit systems that reduce congestion. We are also committed to ensuring all of Canada's cities have access to rail connections, and develop high-speed corridors between frequently travelled routes.

We believe the current rise in concern over crime is directly linked with the federal government's fixation on the subject and its $9 billion spent on new prisons. Still, even with the crime rate going down, we would all like to feel safer. We are committed to further reducing crime through better programs in youth activity and early childhood education. We are committed to addressing underlying causes of crime such as poverty, racism, and inequality.

In our 2011 election platform, the Green party announced a slate of initiatives of long-term investments in municipalities and housing. That slate includes a national affordable housing program, a national solar roof program, and energy retrofits for municipal buildings, schools, universities and hospitals, growing to more than $1.6 billion annually by Year 3. An additional $2.4 billion of permanent annual funding has been allocated for six municipal superfunds beginning in the first year.

We believe that cities form a pillar of the green economy. When municipalities set out to build and repair infrastructure, retrofit and rebuild affordable housing, and modernize our aging public transit over decades, it's a decades-long commitment. Their decisions now will decide what kind of an economy we will have for the next 50 years. We hope to work with our cities to lead Canada to a sustainable future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Gilles Duceppe

BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS

The evaluation and the recognition of credentials is Quebec's and the other provinces' responsibility. Quebec is, to a certain extend, autonomous in terms of immigration. Unfortunately, the actual agreement with the federal government doesn't allow us to put forward all the values that characterize Quebec. The only way Quebec will be able to deploy a more efficient and human politic is by getting a hold of the means sovereign countries can count on, like embassies and consulates.

The Bloc Québécois is in favour of discussions to be held across Canada to put in place a frame, which could allow the adoption of politics that are compatible. However, such discussions should not be used as an excuse by the federal government to interfere in Quebec's jurisdiction and, by doing so, double the politics, double the expenses and complicate the legislation.

Since it came into power, the Conservative government has ... adopted an alarmist rhetoric in regards to criminality. It is true that the fight against crime is important, but we have to remember that crime rates have been going down in Quebec and in Canada for nearly 15 years. The Bloc Québécois suggests concrete and efficient legislative measures to protect vulnerable people, particularly children and victims of human trafficking.

The Bloc Québécois proposed that the investments in infrastructures be modified to take into account the different governments' ability to pay. The federal government would pay for 50 per cent of the expenses, Quebec and the provinces would pay for 35 per cent, while the municipalities would pay for 15 per cent. That reflects the capacity to pay of everyone. The Bloc Québécois asks the federal government to regroup its programs under one unique and unconditional transfer fund.

Large cities have more and more responsibilities. We ask that the federal government participate in the fight against poverty by reinvesting in affordable and safe social housing. We also wish it would support the Quebec government in the development of infrastructures for transit systems, notably by establishing reserved lanes for common transportation and by developing new commuter train lines.

3 life

This Easter, satisfy everyones sweet tooth

One of these recipes is more traditional, while the other uses some innovative thinking

NEWS CANADA

Chocolate Bunnies

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS. CA

These traditional chocolate Bunnies are a staple Easter treat.

Preparation:

1. In saucepan melt chocolate morsels and butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until melted. Remove from heat. Add cereal and stir until coated.
2. Using buttered spatula evenly press mixture into 15 x 10 x 1–inch (38 x 25 x 2.5 cm) baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Cool.
3. Using large and small circle, and rabbit head cookie cutters coated with cooking spray, cut cereal mix into shapes. For each rabbit, attach one head to top of large circle with frosting. Attach one small circle for tail. Decorate with frosting and/or candies. **NEWS CANADA/ RICEKRISPIES.CA**

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup (250mL) semi–sweet chocolate morsels
- 3 tbsp (45mL) butter or margarine
- 1 pkg (10 oz) marshmallows, about 40 or 4 cups (1 L) miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups (1.5 L) rice crisp cereal
- Frosting or decorating gel
- Assorted candies

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ STEPHEN HAMILTON

▶ This recipe makes four Apple Pocket Pies.

This Easter, think outside the pie plate and celebrate the holiday with the trendiest innovation in pie-baking in decades.

Pocket pies are tasty, colourful and easy as pie to make. These miniature homemade treats are sure to delight all ages.

Apple Pocket Pies

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 200 C (400 F). Remove pie shells from freezer and let thaw at room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes.
2. In a bowl, combine apples, sugar, cinnamon and flour. Set aside.
3. Remove pie shells from foil onto a clean, flat, lightly floured surface. If cracks appear in the pastry, press together and repair using fingers moistened with water.
4. Using an oval egg-shaped cookie cutter that's 7 by 10 cm (2 3/4 by 4 inches), cut out 6 egg shapes from each pie shell. Set aside any leftover dough.
5. Divide filling mixture evenly among 6 cutouts, mounding in centre and leaving a 5-mm (1/4-inch) border. Top with remaining cutouts. Gently press edges together and crimp with a fork.
6. Brush tops lightly with milk and bake for 12 to 15 minutes or until pastry is golden.

Decorating tips: Use any leftover dough to cut shapes to decorate top. Brush with milk or egg wash to affix to pie and bake as directed above. Decorate pies with multi-coloured sprinkles by brushing top with milk or egg wash, adding sprinkles and bake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TENDERFLAKE.COM

Ingredients:

- 2 frozen deep dish pie shells
- 250 ml (1 cup) peeled and finely chopped Granny Smith apples
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) brown sugar
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) all-purpose flour
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) milk

Egg History

Did you know that since ancient days, the egg has been the symbol of new life? Even before it became entwined with the Christian Easter, eggs were used by Romans, Chinese, and Egyptians in rite–of–spring festivals as a way to celebrate the dawn of a new season. **NEWS CANADA**

There are many ways to decorate eggs. Here's some simple ideas to kick it up a notch.

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Europe in North America

If you can't afford to head across the Atlantic, visiting Quebec City is a good alternative Find charm and history in one of North America's oldest cities There are plenty of great B&Bs and fine dining options

STEPHANIE GRAY
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

If the thought of jumping the pond to Europe sounds exciting, yet the price slighting overwhelming, then consider packing your bags and heading to the capital of Quebec. Over 400-years-old and the only walled-in city remaining in North America, Quebec City exudes a character and romance reminiscent of Europe. Find out just how easy it is to have an affordable getaway with a French flair.

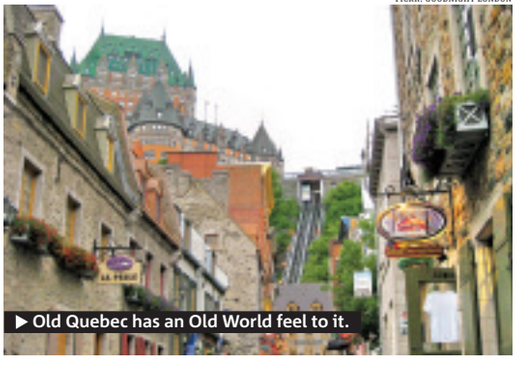
FLICKR: ABDALLAHH

▶ Musée National des Beaux-Arts at night.

FLICKR: LOIMER

▶ Taking a stroll in beautiful Quebec City.

FICKR: GOODNIGHT LONDON



▶ Old Quebec has an Old World feel to it.

Historical Sites

As one of the oldest cities in North America, this destination is brimming with historic landmarks, the most notable being Old Quebec, a designated UNESCO world heritage site. Other treasures include the Parliament Building, architecturally inspired by the Louvre, the historic urban park of the Plains of Abraham and the fortifications that surround the old city. Plus you'll keep your budget in check, as many of the historic sites are free of charge.

Divine Dining

Follow the lead of the French and dine at a restaurant that focuses on fresh, local ingredients. For a memorable meal try Le Patriarche in Old Quebec with dishes inspired by the province including their signature wild game trilogy and desserts created by their in-house pastry chef. It's a true French dining experience worth the splurge.

Sweet Sleeps

From quaint B&B's to the iconic Château Frontenac, it's easy to find accommodations with old-world charm. Perched on a cape overlooking the St. Lawrence River, the Fairmont Le Château Frontenac is a 618-room luxury hotel in Old Quebec offering award-winning cuisine and a full-service spa and health club. Established in 1832 by an Irish settler, Hayden's Wexford House is a quaint bed and breakfast with three Victorian-style bedrooms and run by two gracious and knowledgable hosts.

Fun Freebies

Strolling along Rue St. Paul, climbing the Rue de la Montage and exploring the main collection at the Musée National des Beaux-Arts, you'll find there is much to do in the city without spending a penny. Try a guided tour through the 17th century Notre-Dame de Quebec Basilica-Cathedral or talk a short drive to view the stunning Montmorency Falls, one-and-a-half times higher than Niagara Falls.

Money-Saving Ideas:

- Picnic in the Park. Do like the French and head to the market for fresh fruit, a baguette and artisenal cheeses for a simple, yet delicious outdoor meal.
- Plane or Train. Ditch the car and save on gas. The spring is a great time to get a travel deal too.
- Buy a Pass. For $50 consider the Quebec City Museum Pass, which is good for three days and gives entry to 20 museums and attractions around town.

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the Royal Wedding Brought to you by: weddingbells metro

Finding a romantic Scottish hideaway

The perfect date night place for Kate and William

CONTRIBUTED

▶ A visit to The Three Chimneys in the Isle of Skye would be a great place for the Royal couple to visit.

On the shores of Loch Dunvegan in the Isle of Skye sits The Three Chimneys, one of Scotland's most famous restaurants complete with a tiny guesthouse, both incredibly luxe and intimate.

The Three Chimneys has been described as The French Laundry of Scotland, with people from around the world traveling to Chef Michael Smith's kitchen. All food is harvested locally and the menu changes weekly according to ingredients.

Because so many people travel here to dine, six plush guest rooms were opened at The House Over-By, each boasting a breathtaking view of the open sea. This sweet spot would be the perfect place for the Royal couple to seek pre-party solace and is an absolutely wonderful place to honeymoon.

ALISON MCGILL/ WEDDINGBELLS

6 ways to reduce the chances of losing your luggage

ISTOCK IMAGES

▶ Every traveller's nightmare is to arrive in your location, while you luggage ends up somewhere else.

- Before your bag disappears behind the ticket counter, make sure the airline's tag has your name, flight number and final destination.
- Place a copy of your flight itinerary inside your suitcase with your cellphone number and the name of your hotel in case the tag is ripped off or goes missing.
- If you can't live without it, don't check it. It might take days to return a lost bag. Don't pack medication or outfits for tomorrow's meeting or wedding. Never check valuables such as jewelry or electronics.
- Make your bag stand out. A bright colour or print — or something tied to the handle — prevents somebody from accidentally taking it at baggage claim.
- Prepare your carry-on bag as if it will be checked. You might not have planned to check your bag, but given today's crowded overhead bins many flyers don't have a choice.
- If your bag doesn't arrive, file a claim before you leave the airport. If on a cruise, give your itinerary to the airline so your luggage can be forwarded to the next port.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Keeping students interested

Research shows that a non-interactive classroom environment can be especially hard on young learners

Students' interest and desire to participate actively in the learning process is central to their success at any level of education. All students are motivated by some activities; in schools, student motivation is deeply affected by what happens in classrooms. Research drawn from several fields suggests ways we can improve students' engagement and motivation.

• Relevance – Building on students' interests and making the lessons relevant to students' lives and what they already know are good practices.
• Choice – Giving students more choices in their learning, both about what to study and about how to present what they know and can do, makes learning more interesting and heightens curiosity.
• Recognizing Effort – Success is a big spur to further effort. Students' motivation increases when their efforts and contributions are consistently valued.
• Feedback – Timely and specific feedback tells students what their strengths and weaknesses are. Feedback must be given so that students understand what they need to do in order to improve. Multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning are also important.
• Teaching Methods and Tools – Students learn best through a variety of teaching techniques and strategies that challenge them and encourage them to explore ideas. The use of technology, such as computers, and SMART Boards, can also help to motivate students.

More info

For more information on the research references that inform this issue, visit cea-ace.ca/facts-on-education.

Parents are valuable partners in the learning process. They can support their child's learning by suggesting strategies to teachers that they have observed to be successful at home. This will help teachers meet the child's learning needs.

ISTOCK

▶ A sincere desire to engage in learning is key to retaining information for kids.

Teachers and parents support their children's learning when they praise effort and hard work rather than intelligence. There is growing evidence that children's intelligence is not fixed, and the children who do best are those who develop "growth mindsets" so that they are prepared to put in the effort to succeed.

COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (CEA) AND THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO (OISE/UT)

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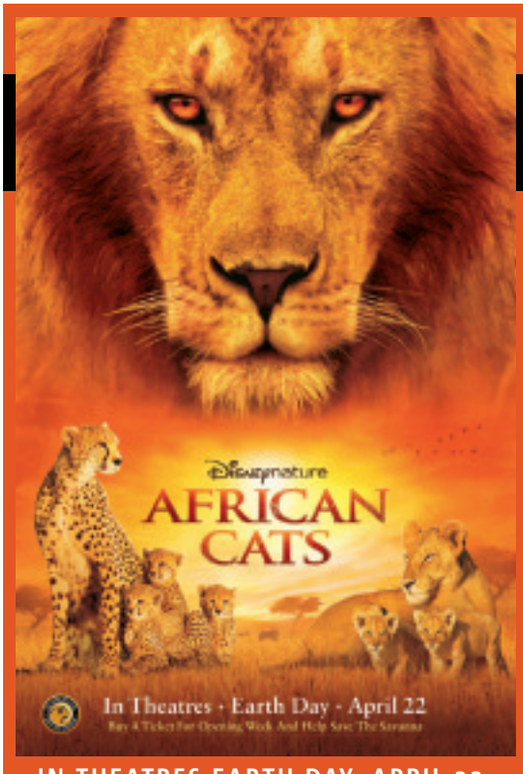

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5 drive

Engine

While the Aveo's standard 108-horsepower four-cylinder engine typifies those found in this class, the Sonic roars to life with a 135-horsepower 1.8-litre four-cylinder, or optional 138-horsepower turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder. Since both powerplants also see service in the larger and heavier Chevrolet Cruze sedan, you can expect the little Sonic to be a lively performer along with delivering respectable fuel economy.

Interior

Impressive design characteristics are featured in the Sonic's interior, where the dashboard and control panel exude an up-level quality rarely seen in the econo-car class.

An analog tachometer dominates the driver's field of vision, flanked by a rectangular screen displaying a digital speedometer, odometer and fuel gauge. Up-level models will offer two-tone dash and door-panel trim.

Body styling

There's obviously a lot more North American flavour built into the Sonic's design that now features a stubbier-looking nose with a more prominent grille and fancier headlight pods.

In back, the sedan appears somewhat similar to the outgoing Aveo sedan, while the stylish hatchback does a good job at hiding the rear door latches adjacent to the roof pillar. Also, the Sonic features fancy taillamps that were apparently inspired by motorcycle headlights.

▶ From stem to stern, the Sonic is aggressively styled with beady eyeballs, embossed front-fender arches and a plunging beltline. However, the design cues are not that much different than other cars in the class such as the Mazda2 or the Ford Fiesta.

Chevy hoping for Sonic boom

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

You might have noticed the sudden flurry of small-car launches announced by many of the world's automakers.

You might have also noticed the steadily rising pump prices attributed to a certain oil-producing-nation's strife.

This volatility is bad news for drivers of big, thirsty vehicles, but it's the perfect storm for General Motors, which will this fall launch the all-new Sonic series of sub-compacts.

The Sonic replaces the Korea-built Aveo that has served as the automaker's entry model since the 2004 model year. Like the Aveo, the Sonic will be offered in both sedan and mini-wagon formats. However, unlike the Aveo, the Sonic will be constructed at GM's Orion, Mich. plant that was recently refitted to the tune of more than $500 million.

The Sonic's late-2011 arrival bolsters Chevy's focus on the svelte end of the passenger-car scale. Prices will likely begin at about $14,500 (including delivery charges), possibly slightly more for the hatchback version.

That should make for a super-Sonic buy in a class where automakers appear to be spending a lot more care and attention to detail than they were when gas was cheap and bigger was better. That's good news for buyers who are tired of fuel-price volatility and, up to now, had no real options.

▶ A look at the Sonic sedan.

9 Both Sonic body styles are larger than their outgoing Aveo counterparts by nearly nine centimetres in overall length and more than 7.5 centimetres between the front and rear wheels. In the sub-compact class, these increases are significant and point to added front and rear passenger space.

▶ The Sonic looks the part of a mid-level sedan rather than an entry-level small car.

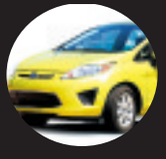
Sonic

What you should know about the 2012 Chevrolet Sonic:

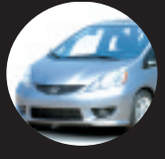
- **Types:** Four-door sub-compact sedan/hatchback.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC I4 (135); 1.4-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (138).
- **Transmission:** Five-speed manual (1.8); six-speed automatic (opt., 1.8); Six-speed manual (1.4 turbo).
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 7.6/5.3 (1.8, MT, est.).

By comparison

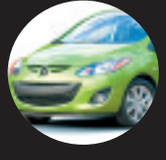
Ford Fiesta
Base price: $14,450
All-new sedan and hatchback models are easy on the eyes and easy on gas.



Honda Fit
Base price: $15,900
Class-leading, fun-to-drive wagon features a versatile interior.



Mazda2
Base price: $15,500
Sporty, fuel-sipper looks great. Slick-shifting manual gearbox a real treat.



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$28,195 SELLING PRICE

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The most fuel-efficient Compact Intelligent All-Wheel Drive vehicle in Canada. This is Fighting Carformity at its best. Its 150-hp 2.0L engine, 16" Aluminum Alloy Wheels, and European-tuned suspension will take you on any side street or highway life demands.

$19,535 SELLING PRICE

OWN IT FOR $125* BI-WEEKLY | **PURCHASE FINANCING** 0% FOR 72 MONTHS

$2,200 DOWN. Excludes Delivery & Destination of $1,395, Dealer Administration Fee, taxes, fees, insurance and license & registration

2011 GRAND VITARA JX 4WD

Fight Carformity with a Compact SUV that has the off-road capabilities and practicality of an authentic SUV, along with on-road comfort and convenience. Grand Vitara's SmartPass™ Keyless Entry and Start system, Electronic Stability Program (ESP), Class-leading towing capacity[1], and fuel-efficient engine will make your journey more enjoyable. It's Suzuki's leading candidate to Fight Carformity off-road as well as on.

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CONSUMERS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING: Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. These offers cannot be combined with any other offers and are subject to change without notice. Dealers may sell for less. See participating dealers for details. *Limited time finance offers available O.A.C. Special bi-weekly purchase finance offers are available on 2011 Kizashi SX iAWD Model 6B23V41, 2011 SX4 Hatchback JX iAWD with manual transmission Model H3NB2J1 and 2011 Grand Vitara JX 4WD automatic transmission Model L2TB5T1 for a 72 month term. Cost of borrowing is $1,522/$0/$0. Total obligations exclude PPSA up to $72, dealer administration fee, taxes, license, insurance and registration. Offer valid until April 30, 2011. [1]When properly equipped.

4 sports

Raonic advances in Barcelona

JULIAN FINNEY/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Canada's Milos Raonic plays at the ATP Masters Series Tennis at the Monte Carlo Country Club on April 14 in Monte Carlo, Monaco.

Canada's Milos Raonic defeated Czech veteran Radek Stepanek 6-4, 6-2 yesterday for the second time in three months to reach the second round of the Barcelona Open.

The 20-year-old from Thornhill, Ont., will meet Simon Greul next, after the German defeated American Robert Kendrick, 6-4, 6-4.

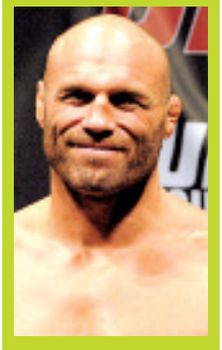
"The next match will be tough, but I'm playing a lot better than I was when I played him before. I'm adjusting well to the clay and playing my game," said Raonic as he competes in only his second event on clay at the ATP level. "I feel I'm making some progress on the surface.

"I'm moving well, using my shots well and doing what I have to. I'm also playing aggressive at the right time. If I execute well, I feel I have a good chance to win more matches. All of my sensations on court have been good so far this week."

"I was feeling comfortable out there."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted



"I want to go out on my own terms and decide when enough is enough. I think that time has come."

UFC HALL OF FAMER RANDY (THE NATURAL) COUTURE WHO ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT HE WILL RETIRE AFTER FACING LYOTO (THE DRAGON) MACHIDA AT UFC 129 IN TORONTO ON APRIL 30.

Hawks dominant in avoiding sweep

Chicago finally figure out Luongo, scoring seven goals on 28 shots

Dave Bolland returned to the Chicago lineup after missing 17 games with a concussion and had a goal and three assists last night as the defending Stanley Cup champion Blackhawks avoided being swept, routing the Vancouver Canucks 7-2.

Vancouver still leads 3-1 in the first-round series that heads back to the Rogers Arena for Game 5 tomorrow night.

Chicago's Patrick Sharp scored two power-play goals in a chippy final period that featured pushing, shoving, jawing and a fight between Vancouver's Kevin Bieska and Chicago's Victor Stalberg.

7	2
HAWKS	CANUCKS

The Blackhawks got an offensive lift from their defencemen as Brian Campbell and Duncan Keith scored 17 seconds apart in a four-goal second period.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Bryan Bickell of the Chicago Blackhawks scores on Roberto Luongo of the Vancouver Canucks in the first period last night.

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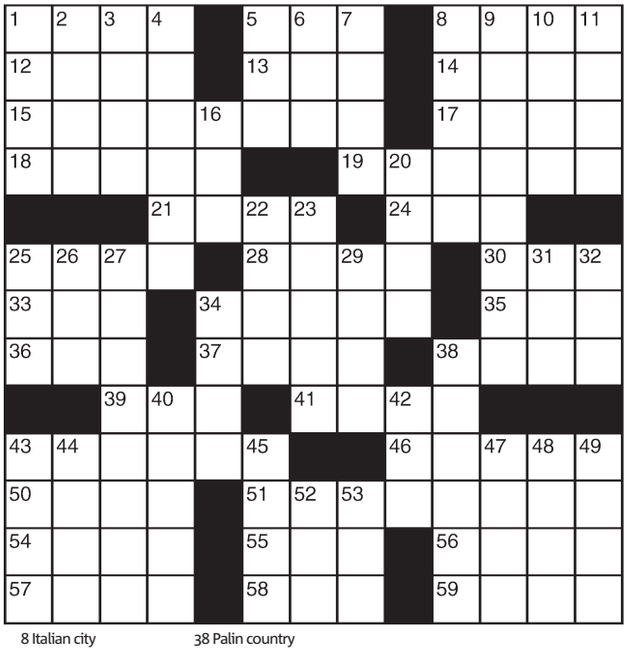
Crossword



Across

1 Postal deliveries
5 Condi-tions
8 H.S. juniors' hurdle
12 — dixit
13 Commo-tion
14 Heche or Hathaway
15 Winter weather occurrence
17 — -tat-tat
18 Old saying
19 Laundry repository
21 8-Across, e.g.
24 Taxi
25 Socialist Eugene
28 Layer
30 Curvy letter
33 Exist
34 Courage
35 "Eureka!"
36 Lingerie item
37 Mimic
38 From the start
39 "Platoon" site, for short
41 Transaction
43 Oft-tapped trees
46 Low operatic voice
50 "American —"
51 Directing principle
54 Red tag event
55 Whatever amount
56 Welles portrayal
57 Portent
58 Golf gizmo
59 Favorable votes

Down

1 Isinglass
2 Two peas in —
3 Actress Fisher
4 Sills
5 Writer Fleming
6 Rx overseer
7 Second-year student
8 Italian city
9 Long-pod veggie
10 Initial chip
11 Rend
16 Gender
20 Farm fraction
22 On
23 Hetero-geneous
25 Light touch
26 Mess up
27 Tall, thin type
29 Hibernia
31 That girl
32 Recent horror film franchise
34 Auntie of Broadway
38 Palin country
40 "Annie Hall" director
42 Honest politician
43 Soybean paste
44 Leading man?
45 Lovers' quarrel
47 Remain
48 Logical
49 Raw rocks
52 Indivisible
53 Caustic solution

▶ Yesterday's answer

P	E	R	M		S	E	E		S	T	U	D
A	R	E	A		P	A	N		C	A	N	E
L	A	S	T	W	O	R	D		R	U	D	E
			T	I	T		O	R	A	T	O	R
R	A	V	E	N		D	R	A	W			
A	L	A	R		F	A	S	T	L	A	N	E
S	I	N		S	A	F	E	S		G	O	V
P	A	S	T	L	I	F	E		R	A	G	E
			H	U	E	Y		A	A	R	O	N
A	S	S	I	G	N		E	N	D			
F	E	A	R		C	A	S	T	I	R	O	N
R	E	N	T		E	S	P		A	U	T	O
O	R	G	Y		S	K	Y		L	E	T	S

Sudoku

	3				8			
6			3	9		8	1	
4		8					5	
	5	9		2				
			5		7			
				8		2	7	
	7					5		9
	8	6		1	5			4
			2				3	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

V.Q.
yeobo~ you're the most amazing, beautiful, wonderful person i ever met ~ looking forward to our upcoming day together :D p.s. i love you :) <3
A.N.

mavis
*boo mavis... wanna send this to you and muwah & hugs.. have fun ok! *winks**
FROM ROMAN

DriverBoy
Whether we are laughing and giggling at home, or smirking through text... You are always my # 1 best friend and I'll love you forever :) **FROM INFINITY56**

A look at the weather

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -4° Max 8°	Min -3° Max 8°	Min 1° Max 9°

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You may be tempted to go on a spree but you should keep your wallet in your pocket.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Start looking ahead to all the glorious things coming your way.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Look for the good in what other people do, and praise them for it at every chance.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You've been too caught up in your work of late. It's time to take a less demanding path.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 An issue that has been causing you pain can easily be dealt with today.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Get away from your usual environment. Do something different and exciting.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Family and friends will do whatever they can to help you out of a tricky situation today.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Relationship misunderstandings are a fact of life. It is how you deal with them that matters.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If someone makes you an offer that requires a lot of effort, turn it down. You'll survive.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 What's your number one dream? Make it your priority.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 If you want to persuade people, you will need to appeal to them on an emotional level.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If you're holding back from letting others know what you believe, stop it. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

MARK DUNCAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VADIM GHIRDA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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4:15 PM
68%
twitter
Toronto Weather
10°C Haze
Metro Toronto Tweets
Poll: Would you accept a lower salary to work for a socially
metro drive
metro drive
Abu Dhabi Grand Prix Practice Results
ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates - Practice results Friday for Sunday's Abu Dhabi Grand Prix at the 5.554-kilometre Yas Marina circuit with driver, country, car, fastest lap time and laps...
Ford Fusion a solid bet for a used sporty sedan
Shopping out a used Fusion? It's a sporty and unique sedan that doesn't blend into the endless sea of Camrys
Linamar stock slides despite Q3 turnaround
TORONTO - Linamar Corp. (TSX:LNR) stock continued its recent sharp slide Friday, a day after the auto parts maker turned in an earnings report that fell slightly below estimates and announced that...
metro auto pilot
Don't leave traction to technology
Every time I feel the need to discuss grip I talk to Pierre Sasey, chief instructor of the BMW Canada Winter Driving School.
You'll need that ice scraper sooner than you think
You see some scary things around Halloween, but none more so than unprepared vehicle.
Hybrid cars: Looking for a few more buyers
Hybrids have arrived, yes? Well, me thinks "yes" and "no." Hybrid technology has certainly arrived.
metro my drive
Celebrity chef goes for wine-country red
DON'T JUST DRIVE
CRUZE
NEWS
SCENE
LIFE
SPORTS
DRIVE

you'll really this.

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